



# St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Chaplaincy to Kingston University  
Parish Priest - Fr. Kevin Stokes  
Tel 020 8616 9583 email [parishpriest.straphael@gmail.com](mailto:parishpriest.straphael@gmail.com)  
Parish Deacon - Peter Sebastian  
Tel 07921667679 email [deaconpetersebastian@gmail.com](mailto:deaconpetersebastian@gmail.com)

Parish Office -(Mon. - Fri. 9.00am - 4.00pm)  
St. Raphael's Church, Portsmouth Road, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 - 2NA

Church Manager Tel 020 8541 - 4999 email [straphaelparishoffice@googlemail.com](mailto:straphaelparishoffice@googlemail.com) Web. [www.straphael.org.uk](http://www.straphael.org.uk)

## 29th January 2017 - 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) psalter IV

9.30am Family Mass                      Pro Populo  
11.30am Mass with Hymns              Theresa & Alex Campbell RIP  
5.00pm Quiet Mass                        Roger Fall RIP

### Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm

Mon. 30<sup>th</sup> January Feria in Ordinary Time  
**NO MASS TODAY**  
Tue. 31<sup>st</sup> January St. John Bosco  
10.00am Paul Ferro RIP  
Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> February Feria in Ordinary Time  
12 noon Mabel Ezechial RIP  
Thu. 2<sup>nd</sup> February The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas  
10.00am Brigitte Ezechial RIP  
Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the  
priesthood. Concludes with Benediction at 12.00noon  
Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup> February St. Blaise  
10.00am Jacob Brady RIP  
Sat. 4<sup>th</sup> February Our Lady  
10.00am Anne Bennett RIP

Please note  
No Mass on  
Monday

## 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017 - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) psalter I

9.30am Family Mass                      Peter Freeman  
11.30am Mass with Hymns              Patrick Munroe RIP  
5.00pm Quiet Mass                        Pro Populo

### Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm

### The Rosary is recited

Monday - Saturday before Mass



*If you would like a Sanctuary Lamp to burn night and day before the Blessed Sacrament, the lamp on Our Lady's Altar or at St. Anthony's Shrine for yourself, a loved one or for a special intention please contact either the Parish Office or a sacristan. The recommended donation is £5.*

*The Sanctuary Lamps this week are burning for*  
- A Private Intention  
*The Lamp on Our Lady's Altar is burning for*  
- Anita & Eugenia  
*The Lamp at St. Anthony's Shrine is burning for*  
- Nathan

### Confessions Sundays

9.00am - 9.20am &  
4.30pm - 4.50pm

### Saturdays

10.30am - 11.00am

We remember in prayer, the sick and housebound of the Parish.

We also pray for the medical profession and all carers.



### APPOINTMENTS WITH FR. KEVIN

If you need to speak with Fr. Kevin regarding a pastoral or sacramental matter please email [parishpriest.straphael@gmail.com](mailto:parishpriest.straphael@gmail.com) to make a convenient appointment.

### HOSPITAL

If you, or a member of your family, are admitted to Kingston Hospital you need to inform ward staff that you are Roman Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain Fr. Julius, his number is **8 942 2178**.

If you need the Sacrament of the Sick at home, please speak to Fr. Kevin.

### CHURCH CLEANING

Every Wednesday at 9.00am - please come and help keep our church looking beautiful for Our Lord.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

Saturday at 10.30am in Alexander House. (The programme is now full)

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sundays during the 9.30am Mass

### RCIA

Meets on Fridays at 7.30pm in the Parish Library. For more information contact Deacon Peter whose details are on the Newsletter header

### SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE

After the morning Masses today

### KINGSTON UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC SOCIETY

St. Raphael's is the Catholic Parish Church for the University and students and staff are most welcome at all our Masses and other events in the parish. Deacon Peter is the Catholic Chaplain to the Kingston University Catholic Society and he is available to help and support all students and staff. (His contact details are at the top of this Newsletter)

### STUDENT DISCUSSIONS

At the weekly meeting of the Society in the Parish Library after the 5 pm Mass, Deacon Peter is leading a series of discussions on key aspects of our faith. Today's subject is prayer and how to pray (with a video about prayer led by Bishop Mark Davies). Next week's subject is Scripture, Tradition and the Teaching Authority of the Church. All college and 6th Form students are most welcome to join in. For more information, please contact Deacon Peter.



## St. Joseph's Our Catholic Primary School

The Fairfield, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 - 2UP.

T. 020 8546 7178 E. [office@stjosephs.rbksch.org](mailto:office@stjosephs.rbksch.org)

W. [stjosephsprimary.net/](http://stjosephsprimary.net/)

Boys & Girls Aged 3-11. Breakfast Club & After School Club.

### THANK YOU FOR LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

£570.03 Loose & £278.00 Gift Aid  
= £848.03

## FEAST OF ST. BLAISE – BLESSING OF THROATS

On Friday we keep the feast of St. Blaise. Each year on this feast day, during Mass, the priest blesses the throats of those present. He holds two candles under the throat and recites the following prayer.

*“Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”.*

## JOHN DOBAI – SURVIVOR OF THE HOLOCAUST.

John Dobai will give a talk at Kingston University on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 6.15pm. on how he survived the mass deportation of the Hungarian Jews to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. See the poster in the church porch for more details.

**2 VACANCIES AT RICHARD CHALLONER SCHOOL,**  
LETTINGS OFFICER - to start as soon as possible. Salary £10.00 per hour.

PREMISES MANAGER - to start July 2017 - 35 hours per week Salary £25,500 – £30,000 depending on experience/qualifications.

Full details of the school and these vacancies can be found at [www.richardchalloner.com/](http://www.richardchalloner.com/) Or contact the Bursar, Mrs Harvey at [bursar@challoner.kingston.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@challoner.kingston.sch.uk)

## GUIDED TOUR OF TYBURN CONVENT AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 3.30 – 5.30 PM

The Kingston University Catholic Society of students has organised a tour of Tyburn Convent near Marble Arch, central London. The convent has the relics of many Catholic martyrs executed at Tyburn in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. From the 12<sup>th</sup> century over 100,000 people were executed at Tyburn including children for petty crimes. Today, the Convent is a great centre of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. The Tyburn Nuns - the Benedictine Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre – welcome pilgrims and tourists from all over the world to visit the Shrine of the Martyrs at Tyburn. Their life is centred on Eucharistic Adoration for the glory of God and on prayer for the needs of the whole human family. Parishioners of the Deanery are most welcome to join the students on this visit. For further details, please contact Deacon Peter (details on the front of the Newsletter).

## KINGSTON CHURCHES ACTION ON HOMELESSNESS – QUIZ EVENING

At St. Paul's Church, Queens Road, Kingston on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 6.45 - 9.30 pm. For more information please see the poster in the porch.

## THANK YOU

Lizzie Braidwood would like to thank the kind person who handed in her purse to Kingston Police Station after she lost it after Mass recently.

## NEWS FROM ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Our School has lots to celebrate already this half-term in R.E.

The faith council led the school in an R.E./Art competition. Every class was given a quote from the Bible to inspire them in creating a piece of art work based around the wonderful world God has given us and the unconditional love God gives us. The winning design from each class will be revealed in the front entrance hall on our new spring display. Congratulations to all our children concerned.

Last week, we had a visit from the R.E. advisor from our Diocese who took great pleasure in seeing the children in their learning environment and speaking to the faith council about R.E. at St. Joseph's. It was noted that St. Joseph's is, 'a community based on faith and clear vision' and that 'there is a clear sense of respect for all'. Well-done St Joseph's!

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - CANDLEMAS



On Thursday, we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which is also known as Candlemas day - since the blessing and procession of candles is included in today's liturgy.

The Readings give us an important insight into understanding the profound mystery of the Lord's Presentation in the Temple. The reading from the Prophet Malachi says, '*I am sending my messenger to*

*prepare the way before me and suddenly there will come to the temple, the Lord whom you seek*'. This messenger, sent to prepare the way, was St. John the Baptist. He was born six months before Jesus, after him the Lord himself will come. Jesus's presentation signifies God's entrance into His temple - God made man presenting Himself to those who were already searching for Him.

The Gospel introduces us to different people and events that in themselves provide numerous lessons and themes for further reflection. First of all, Mary and Joseph respected the law by offering the sacrifice prescribed for the poor, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Simeon and Anna were two venerable elderly people dedicated to prayer and fasting and so their strong religious spirit rendered them able to recognize the Messiah.

In this sense, we can see in the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple an extension of the 'Pro Orantibus Day' (For those who pray) that is celebrated on the feast of the Presentation of Mary (21<sup>st</sup> November). On this day, the Church demonstrates its gratitude to all those in the community that dedicate themselves in a privileged way to prayer, to those who have a particular religious vocation and to the contemplative life. In the figure of the venerable Simeon, Jesus's presentation in the temple, also reminds us that prayer and contemplation are not a waste of time or an obstacle to charity. On the contrary, time could not be better spent than in prayer. Only those who pray and offer penance, like Simeon and Anna, are open to the breath of the Spirit. They know how to recognize the Lord in the circumstances in which He manifests Himself because they possess an ample interior vision and they have learned how to love with a heart full of charity.

Pope St. John Paul II explains that, Simeon's prophecy of Mary's sufferings is like a second Annunciation to her, for they tell of how He is to accomplish his mission, in misunderstanding and sorrow.' (Redemptoris Mater, n16)

The archangel's announcement was a fount of incredible joy because it pertained to Jesus's messianic royalty and the supernatural character. Simeon's announcement instead, spoke of the Lord's work of redemption that He would complete associating Himself through suffering to His Mother.

Simeon's prophecy also announces that Christ will be 'a sign of contradiction'. St. Cyril of Alexandria interpreted the words 'sign of contradiction' as the cross. St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians that the cross is 'a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles' It is a sign of contradiction in the sense that to those without faith it appears as foolish while to those who recognize its power, the cross reveals salvation and life.